

BA-2811

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: BA-2811Name: CLIFFER Mill Rd OVER GUNPOWDER FALLS & PRETTY BOY
RESERVOIR

The bridge referenced herein was inventoried by the Maryland State Highway Administration as part of the Historic Bridge Inventory, and SHA provided the Trust with eligibility determinations in February 2001. The Trust accepted the Historic Bridge Inventory on April 3, 2001. The bridge received the following determination of eligibility.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	
Eligibility Recommended <u>X</u>	Eligibility Not Recommended _____
Criteria: <u>X</u> A <u>X</u> B <u>X</u> C _____ D Considerations: _____ A _____ B _____ C _____ D _____ E _____ F _____ G _____ None	
Comments: _____	
Reviewer, OPS: <u>Anne E. Bruder</u>	
Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>	
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>Peter E. Kurtze</u>	
Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>	

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MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC BRIDGES
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION/
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MHT No. BA-2811

SHA Bridge No. BC 6519 Bridge name Clipper Mill Road over Gunpowder Falls/Prettyboy Reservoir

LOCATION:

Street/Road name and number [facility carried] Clipper Mill Road

City/town Hoffmanville Vicinity X

County Baltimore

This bridge projects over: Road Railway Water X Land

Ownership: State County Municipal X Other

HISTORIC STATUS:

Is the bridge located within a designated historic district? Yes No X

National Register-listed district National Register-determined-eligible district

Locally-designated district Other

Name of district

BRIDGE TYPE:

Timber Bridge :

Beam Bridge Truss -Covered Trestle

Timber-And-Concrete

Stone Arch Bridge

Metal Truss Bridge

Movable Bridge :

Swing

Vertical Lift

Bascule Single Leaf

Retractable

Bascule Multiple Leaf

Pontoon

Metal Girder X :

Rolled Girder

Plate Girder X

Rolled Girder Concrete Encased

Plate Girder Concrete Encased

Metal Suspension

Metal Arch

Metal Cantilever

Concrete :

Concrete Arch Concrete Slab Concrete Beam Rigid Frame

Other Type Name

DESCRIPTION:Setting: Urban _____ Small town _____ Rural X**Describe Setting:**

Bridge No. BC 6519 carries Clipper Mill Road over Gunpowder Falls at the mouth of Prettyboy Reservoir in Baltimore County. Clipper Mill Road runs northeast-southwest and Gunpowder Falls flows northwest-southeast. The bridge is located in the Prettyboy Reservoir area, in the Hoffmanville vicinity. It is surrounded by wooded land.

Describe Superstructure and Substructure:

Bridge No. BC6519 is a 6-span, 2-lane, metal plate girder bridge. The bridge was originally built in 1931, and was rehabilitated in 1988. The structure is 114.6 meters (376 feet) long and has a clear roadway width of 6 meters (20 feet). The out-to-out width is 6.85 meters (22.5 feet). The superstructure consists of two plate girders which support a concrete deck and concrete jersey barrier parapets. The girders are 1.64 meters (5.41 feet) high by approximately .3 meters (1 foot) wide and are spaced 6.4 meters (21 feet) apart. The concrete deck is 21.5 centimeters (8.5 inches) thick. The structure has concrete, jersey barrier parapets and the roadway approaches have metal guardrails. A date stamp on the north parapet indicates that the structure was constructed in 1931 and rehabilitated in 1988. The substructure consists of two concrete abutments and five concrete piers.

According to the 1995 inspection report, the deck was in very good condition and the structural steel had some peeling paint and light rust. At various locations, the concrete piers and abutments had spalls with delamination and random areas of map cracking. The stream channel was in good condition. The sufficiency rating for the structure was not available.

Discuss Major Alterations:

The bridge was rehabilitated in 1988, including replacement of the concrete deck, replacement of pipe railings with concrete jersey barrier parapets, and cleaning and re-painting of the structural steel.

HISTORY:WHEN was the bridge built: 1931/1988This date is: Actual X Estimated _____Source of date: Plaque X Design plans _____ City bridge files/inspection form X

Other (specify) :

WHY was the bridge built?

Bridge BC 6519 was built as part of the construction of the Prettyboy Reservoir complex. This expansion of Baltimore's water supply system was north of the existing two dams on Gunpowder Falls at Loch Raven. The expansion was required to increase the water supply available to the City of Baltimore. This bridge was constructed to carry Clipper Mill Road over the reservoir which resulted from the construction of the dam.

WHO was the designer?

Unknown

WHO was the builder?

Unknown

WHY was the bridge altered?

The bridge was altered to correct functional or structural deficiencies.

Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge-building campaign?

Bridge BC 6519 was built as part of the Prettyboy Reservoir project, a City of Baltimore water supply expansion project.

SURVEYOR/HISTORIAN ANALYSIS:

This bridge may have National Register significance for its association with:

A - Events _____ B- Person _____
C- Engineering/architectural character _____

The bridge does not have National Register significance.

Was the bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history?

Prettyboy Reservoir is part of the water supply system of the City of Baltimore. Until the middle of the nineteenth century, water was furnished to the City by the Baltimore City Water Company which brought the water from Jones Falls.

The concern for a good, clean water supply in Baltimore began over a century before the construction of the Prettyboy Reservoir. By 1848, it was noted that "Baltimore is most inadequately supplied with water" and that "the time had arrived for a movement to be made towards diverting the water of Gwynn's Falls, the Gunpowder, or some other falling streams of the vicinity, for this purposed". Construction began on the first water-works in 1858, when a dam was erected across Jones Falls, eight miles outside the city. By circa 1881, Lake Roland, Hampden Reservoir, Druid Lake, High Service Reservoir, and Mount Royal Reservoir had been constructed to tap into Jones Falls; and three reservoirs were constructed on the Gunpowder River, including Loch Raven, Montebello Lake, and Clifton Lake. It was claimed that "[t]he completion of the Gunpowder Permanent Water-supply gives Baltimore a system of water-works unequaled in the United States, affording a supply of water nearly double that of the great city of New York...".

The water supplied by Loch Raven and Jones Falls was adequate for Baltimore until the first decade of the twentieth century. A new Loch Raven dam was started in 1912, however the city had difficulty acquiring land needed in order to raise the elevation of the new dam to the desired 240 feet, and it was not completed until 1922. By 1924, when demand exceeded the safe recommended usage of 100,000,000 gallons per day, advisors to the city recommended expanding the water supply system again to the north on Gunpowder Falls.

Constructed by the City of Baltimore during a three-year period from 1930-1933, Prettyboy was the northernmost reservoir in the county and city's system. Funds to construct the Prettyboy Dam and Reservoir were raised over a nine-year period from loans approved by Baltimore residents. A "Public Improvement Commission" was created in 1920, which began raising funds in 1924. The dam called for 192,000 cubic yards of concrete and the cost of constructing the dam was \$2,383,732. However, this sum

did not include the building of roads, other bridges, and culverts, the purchase and clearing of land for the reservoir, and numerous engineering expenses. The total cost for the entire project was \$4,110,135.

The Prettyboy Dam complex consists of three principal components: a concrete gravity dam, a gatehouse, and a closed spandrel, concrete arch bridge. To the north of the dam complex is the Prettyboy water Reservoir, with an elevation of 520 feet. Compared with the City system's other reservoirs, Prettyboy's crest of 520 feet was the highest; Loch Raven's was 240 feet and Liberty Reservoir's (constructed in the 1940s) was 341 feet). Bridge BC 6519 was constructed over Gunpowder Falls at the mouth of the Prettyboy Reservoir.

When the bridge was built and/or given a major alteration, did it have a significant impact on the growth and development of the area?

There is no evidence that the construction of this bridge had a significant impact on the growth and development of this area. However, Prettyboy Reservoir is both a municipal water supply and a recreation area, providing areas for fishing, boating, hiking and picnicking. The bridge has facilitated access to the reservoir area.

Is the bridge located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation and would the bridge add to or detract from the historic/visual character of the potential district?

The Prettyboy Reservoir are may be eligible for historic designation and Bridge BC 6519 would add to both the historic and visual character of the potential district.

Is the bridge a significant example of its type?

A significant example of a metal girder bridge should possess character-defining elements of its type, and be readily recognizable as an historic structure from the perspective of the traveler. The integrity of distinctive features visible from the roadway approach, including parapet walls or railings, is important in structures which are common examples of their type. This bridge, which is lacking such features as the original railings is an undistinguished example of a metal girder bridge.

Does the bridge retain integrity of important elements described in Context Addendum?

This bridge was rehabilitated in 1988, resulting in the loss of such character-defining elements as the deck and railings.

Is the bridge a significant example of the work of a manufacturer, designer, and/or engineer?

This bridge is not a significant example of the work of a manufacturer, designer, and/or engineer.

Should the bridge be given further study before an evaluation of its significance is made?

No further study of this bridge is required to evaluate its significance.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

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SURVEYOR:

Date bridge recorded August 1998

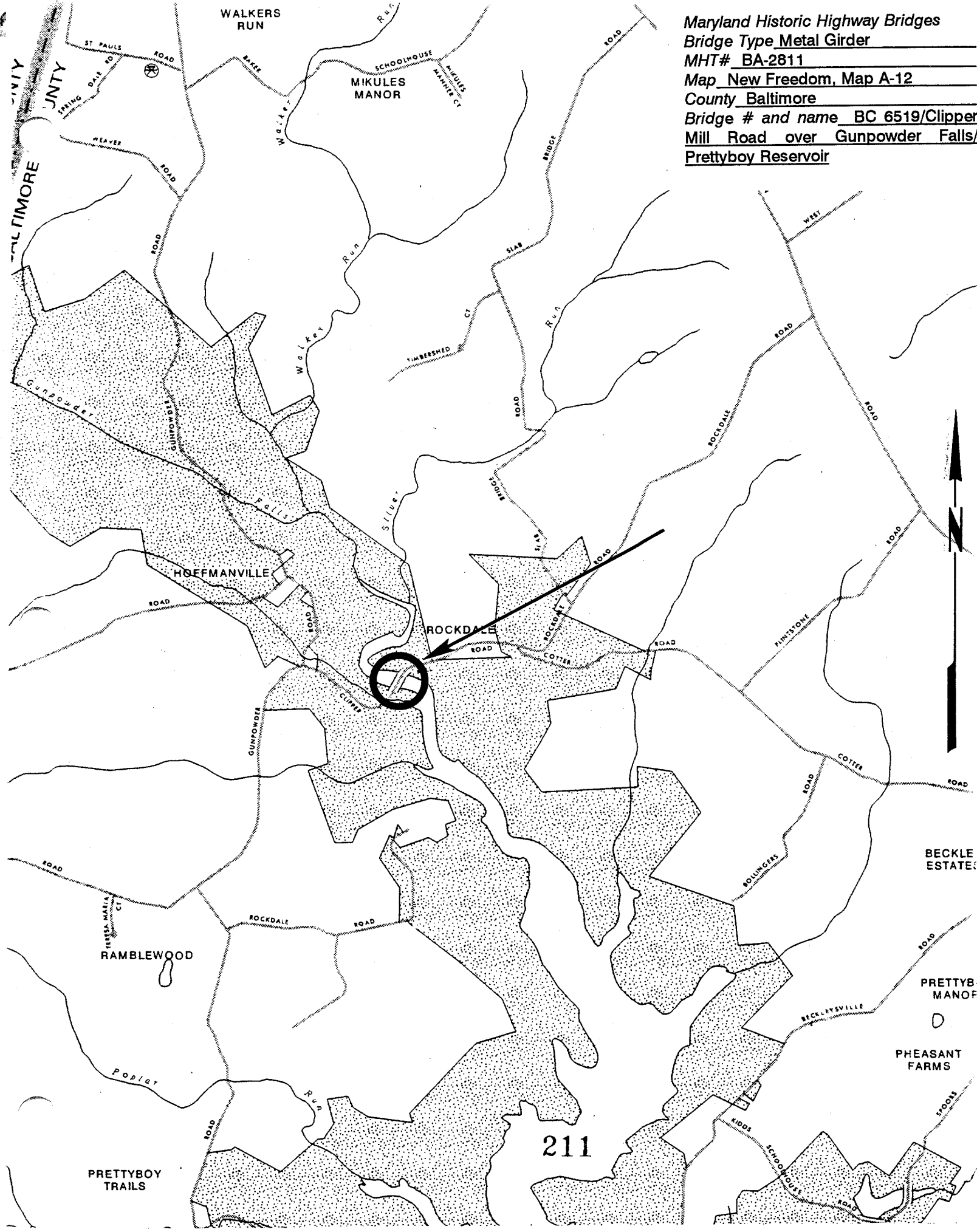
Name of surveyor Caroline Hall

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Maryland Historic Highway Bridges
Bridge Type Metal Girder
MHT# BA-2811
Map New Freedom, Map A-12
County Baltimore
Bridge # and name BC 6519/Clipper
Mill Road over Gunpowder Falls/
Prettyboy Reservoir





BA-2811

BC 6519 CLIPPERMILL ROAD OVER PRETTYBOY RESEVOIR

BALTIMORE CO., MD

C. HALL

8/98

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EAST APPROACH

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SOUTH ELEVATION

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WEST APPROACH

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NORTH ELEVATION

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DATE STAMP 1931-1988

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NORTH ELEVATION

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